

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF DEFECTS IN DEMAND

(PCT Rule 60.1(d))

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office  
 Box PCT  
 Washington, D.C.20231  
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Date of mailing</b><br>(day/month/year) 26 September 2000 (26.09.00) |  |
| <b>International application No.</b><br>PCT/IL99/00434                  | <b>International filing date</b><br>(day/month/year) 05 August 1999 (05.08.99) |
| <b>Applicant</b><br>TAMICARE LTD. et al                                 |  |

The International Bureau hereby notifies the International Preliminary Examining Authority that it has found that the demand is defective for the reasons indicated below:

1. ☐ It does not contain the election of at least one Contracting State bound by Chapter II (Rule 53.2(a)(iv) and 53.7).
2. ☐ It does not permit the identification of the international application to which it relates (Rule 60.1(b)).
3. ☐ It does not contain the required petition (Rules 53.2(a)(i) and 53.3).
4. ☐ It does not contain the required indications concerning the agent as specified in the Annex (Rules 53.2(a)(ii) and 53.5).
5. ☐ It does not contain the required indications concerning the international application as specified in the Annex (Rules 53.2(a)(iii) and 53.6).
6. ☐ It is not submitted in the required language which is \_\_\_\_\_ (Rule 55.1).
7. ☐ It is not made on the printed form (Rule 53.1(a)).
8. ☐ It is presented as a computer print-out the particulars of which do not comply with the Administrative Instructions (Rule 53.1(a)).
9. ☒ It does not contain the required indications concerning the applicant as specified in the Annex (Rules 53.2(a)(ii) and 53.4).
10. ☐ It does not contain the required signature as specified in the Annex (Rules 53.2(b) and 53.8).

Other observations, if necessary:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The International Bureau of WIPO<br>34, chemin des Colombettes<br>1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland<br><br>Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 | Authorised officer<br><br>Charlotte ENGER<br><br>Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38 |
|---|---|

**NOTIFICATION OF DEFECTS IN DEMAND**

International application No.

PCT/IL99/00434

**Continuation of item 4:** As to indications concerning the agent (Rule 4.4), the demand:

- a. ☐ does not properly indicate the agent's name (specify):
- b. ☐ does not indicate the agent's address.
- c. ☐ does not properly indicate the agent's address (specify):

**Continuation of item 5:** As to indications concerning the international application, the demand does not indicate:

- a. ☐ the international filing date.
- b. ☐ the international application number.
- c. ☐ the name of the receiving Office, where the international application number was not known to the applicant at the time the demand was filed.
- d. ☐ the title of the invention.

**Continuation of item 9:** As to indications concerning the applicant (Rules 4.4 and 4.5), the demand:

- a. ☒ does not indicate all the applicants for the elected States.
- b. ☐ does not properly indicate the applicant's name (specify):
- c. ☐ does not indicate the applicant's address.
- d. ☐ does not properly indicate the applicant's address (specify):
- e. ☐ does not indicate the applicant's nationality.
- f. ☐ does not indicate the applicant's residence.

**Continuation of item 10:** As to requirements concerning signature (Rules 4.15 and 90.4), the demand:

- a. ☐ is not signed.
- b. ☐ is not signed by all the applicants for the elected States.
- c. ☐ is not accompanied by the statement referred to in the check list in Box No. VI of the demand explaining the lack of the signature of an applicant for the election of the United States of America.
- d. ☐ is signed by what appears to be an agent/common representative but
- ☐ the demand is not accompanied by a power of attorney appointing him.
- ☐ the power of attorney accompanying the demand is not signed by all the applicants for the elected States.

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING  
AMENDMENTS OF THE CLAIMS(PCT Rule 62 and  
Administrative Instructions, Section 417)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark  
Office  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C.20231  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

26 September 2000 (26.09.00)

International application No.

PCT/IL99/00434

International filing date (day/month/year)

05 August 1999 (05.08.99)

Applicant

TAMICARE LTD. et al

The International Bureau hereby informs the International Preliminary Examining Authority that no amendments under Article 19 have been received by the International Bureau (Administrative Instructions, Section 417).

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

Charlotte ENGER

Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING  
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and  
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

SANFORD, T., Colb  
Sanford T. Colb & Co.  
P.O. Box 2273  
76122 Rehovot  
ISRAËL

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year)<br>07 March 2000 (07.03.00) | <b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>   |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>35009               |   |
| International application No.<br>PCT/IL99/00434              | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>05 August 1999 (05.08.99) |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:  |  |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the applicant  | <input type="checkbox"/> the inventor                                | <input type="checkbox"/> the agent <input type="checkbox"/> the common representative   |
| Name and Address<br>GILOH, Tamar<br>Hahistadrut Street 19A<br>45270 Hod Hasharon<br>Israel   | State of Nationality<br>IL   | State of Residence<br>IL  |
|  | Telephone No.  |   |
|  | Facsimile No.  |   |
|  | Teleprinter No.  |   |
| 2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:  |  |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the person   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the name                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence |
| Name and Address<br>TAMICARE LTD.<br>39 Bar Ilan Street<br>43700 Raanana<br>Israel   | State of Nationality<br>IL   | State of Residence<br>IL  |
|  | Telephone No.  |   |
|  | Facsimile No.  |   |
|  | Teleprinter No.  |   |
| 3. Further observations, if necessary:<br><b>The above-mentioned inventor is to be considered as applicant/inventor for the purposes of the United States of America only, since he assigned his rights for all designated States except US to a new applicant as indicated below.</b> |  |   |
| 4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:   |  |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority  | <input type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned               |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority   | <input type="checkbox"/> other:                                      |   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| The International Bureau of WIPO<br>34, chemin des Colombettes<br>1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland | Authorized officer<br><br>Dominique DELMAS |
| Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35  | Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38           |

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING  
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and  
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

SANFORD, T., Colb  
Sanford T. Colb & Co.  
P.O. Box 2273  
76122 Rehovot  
ISRAËL

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year)<br>07 March 2000 (07.03.00) | <b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b><br><br>International filing date (day/month/year)<br>05 August 1999 (05.08.99) |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>35009               |  |
| International application No.<br>PCT/IL99/00434              |  |

## 1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:

☒ the applicant    ☐ the inventor    ☐ the agent    ☐ the common representative

|  |                            |                          |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name and Address<br>GILOH, Tamar<br>Hahistadrut Street 19A<br>45270 Hod Hasharon<br>Israel | State of Nationality<br>IL | State of Residence<br>IL |
|  | Telephone No.              |                          |
|  | Facsimile No.              |                          |
|  | Teleprinter No.            |                          |

## 2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:

☒ the person    ☒ the name    ☒ the address    ☐ the nationality    ☐ the residence

|  |                            |                          |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name and Address<br>TAMICARE LTD.<br>39 Bar Ilan Street<br>43700 Raanana<br>Israel | State of Nationality<br>IL | State of Residence<br>IL |
|  | Telephone No.              |                          |
|  | Facsimile No.              |                          |
|  | Teleprinter No.            |                          |

## 3. Further observations, if necessary:

**The above-mentioned inventor is to be considered as applicant/inventor for the purposes of the United States of America only, since he assigned his rights for all designated States except US to a new applicant as indicated below.**

## 4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority  | <input type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> other:                                      |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| The International Bureau of WIPO<br>34, chemin des Colombettes<br>1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland<br><br>No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 | Authorized officer<br><br>Dominique DELMAS<br><br>Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38 |
|---|--|

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office  
 Box PCT  
 Washington, D.C.20231  
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Date of mailing</b> (day/month/year)<br>26 September 2000 (26.09.00)        |  |
| <b>International application No.</b><br>PCT/IL99/00434                         | <b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b><br>35009              |
| <b>International filing date</b> (day/month/year)<br>05 August 1999 (05.08.99) | <b>Priority date</b> (day/month/year)<br>07 August 1998 (07.08.98) |
| <b>Applicant</b><br>GILOH, Tamar   |  |

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

06 March 2000 (06.03.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>The International Bureau of WIPO</b><br>34, chemin des Colombettes<br>1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland<br>Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 | Authorized officer<br>Charlotte ENGER<br>Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38 |
|--|---|

## PCT

REC'D 14 AUG 2001

WIPO

PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>6727/2G687-WO  | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) |  |
| International application No.<br>PCT/IL99/00434   | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>05 AUGUST 1999   | Priority date (day/month/year)<br>07 AUGUST 1998 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC<br>IPC(7): A61F 13/15, 13/20 and US Cl.: 604/393,396 |  |  |
| Applicant<br>[GILOH, TAMAR] <i>Tamicare Ltd.</i>  |  |  |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of — sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Date of submission of the demand<br><u>06</u> MARCH 2000   | Date of completion of this report<br>15 JULY 2001           |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US<br>Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks<br>Box PCT<br>Washington, D.C. 20231 | Authorized officer<br><i>Jamissue Webb</i><br>JAMISSUE WEBB |
| Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230   | Telephone No. (703) 308-1148                                |

**I. Basis of the report****1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\***

- ☒ the international application as originally filed  
the description:  
pages 1-4 , as originally filed  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the claims:  
pages 5-6 , as originally filed  
pages NONE , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the drawings:  
pages 1-5 , as originally filed  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the sequence listing part of the description:  
pages NONE , as originally filed  
pages NONE , filed with the demand  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_

**2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.**

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

**3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:**

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

**4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:**

- ☒ the description, pages NONE
- ☒ the claims, Nos. NONE
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/fig NONE

**5. ☐ This report has been drawn as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\***

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\*Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.



**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. statement**

|                               |        |                      |     |
|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims | 8, and 18-22         | YES |
|                               | Claims | 1-7, 9-17            | NO  |
| Inventive Step (IS)           | Claims | 8 and 20             | YES |
|                               | Claims | 1-7, 9-19, and 21-22 | NO  |
| Industrial Applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-22                 | YES |
|                               | Claims | NONE                 | NO  |

**2. citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

**Claims 1 and 13 lack novelty under PCT Article 35(2) as being anticipated by Van TILBURG (US 4,589,876).**

Van Tilburg discloses an integrally formed undergarment (10) with a liquid impermeable backsheet (18) an absorbent pad (16) that extends downward from crotch, along the thigh of the wearer (see Figure 11).

**Claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, 12, and 16 lack novelty under PCT Article 35(2) as being anticipated by CLARKE et al. (5,149,336).**

With respect to Claims 1, 5, 9-10, 12 and 16: Clarke discloses a bra with integrally formed breast pads (12,14) with a moisture resistant outer layer (column 4, lines 27-29), an absorbent pad being made from cotton (24, column 5, lines 61-65) and bonded to the outer cover (column 7, lines 24-26).

With respect to Claims 6 and 7: Clarke discloses the outerlayer being made from a light plastic or rubber latex (column 6, lines 62, latex and silicone rubber are the same material, they are synonyms for each other).

**Claims 1-5, 9, 11, and 14-17 lack novelty under PCT Article 35(2) as being anticipated by IGAUE et al. (Re. 35,687).**

Igaue discloses an integrally formed undergarment of the pants type (see abstract) with a liquid impermeable backsheet (13), an absorbent core (14), with a first portion having vent holes (15), a second portion being impermeable to fluids, containing the absorbent pad and extending beyond the absorbent pad (see Figures 2-5).

**Claims 18-19, and 21-22 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 35(3) as being obvious over IGAUE et al. (Re. 35,687) in view of CLARKE et al. (US 5,149,336).**

Igaue, as disclosed above, teaches the use of an absorbent (Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

**V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):**

core comprising fluff pulp, but fails to specifically disclose the use of cotton fibers, that is attached to the impermeable material. Igaue also fails to teach the use of the liquid impermeable material being made from latex or silicone rubber.

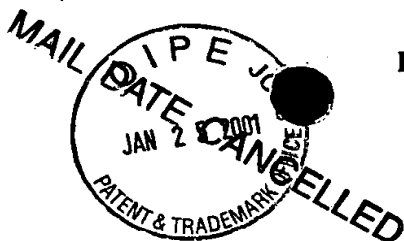
Clarke et al teaches the use of the liquid impermeable cover layer being made from latex rubber (column 6, lines 62, latex and silicone rubber are the same material, they are synonyms for each other), and teaches the use of an absorbent core being made from a mixture of cotton fibers and gelling agents and adhered to the impermeable cover (24, column 5, lines 66-68; column 7, lines 24-26).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the cover and the core of Igaue to be made of the materials and bonded together as disclosed by Clarke, in order to have the outercover not make a rustling or crinkling noise when flexed or deformed, to have the absorbent core only expend a small amount upon the addition of fluid, therefore reducing the possibility of showing through the wearer's garment, and to prevent extraneous movement of the absorbent layer. (See Clarke, column 6-7).

Claims 8 and 20 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the undergarment body having a thickness about 10 microns.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

NONE



## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)



|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>35009  | FOR FURTHER ACTION   | see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below |
| International application No.<br>PCT/IL99/00434 | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>05 AUGUST 1999 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)<br>07 AUGUST 1998  |
| Applicant<br>GILOH, TAMAR                       |  |  |

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

## 1. Basis of the report

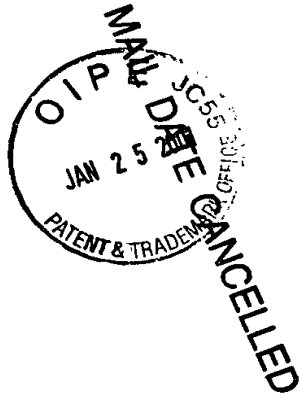
- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to the Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.
2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).
3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).
4. With regard to the title,
- ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- ☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:
5. With regard to the abstract,
- ☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- ☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1c
- ☐ as suggested by the applicant.
- ☒ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- ☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.
- ☐ None of the figures.

## Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

The technical features mentioned in the abstract do not include a reference sign between parentheses (PCT Rule 8.1(d)).

## NEW ABSTRACT

A protective undergarment including an integrally formed undergarment body (18) formed of a liquid impermeable material, and an absorptive pad (20) associated with the integrally formed undergarment body (18).



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

P 99/00434

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61F 13/15, 20

US CL : 604/393

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 604/393, 385.07, 394, 395.01, 396; 450/37

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages                   | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| X         | US 5,149,336 A (CLARKE et al.) 22 September 1992, Fig. 5 and col. 7, lines 45-55.                    | 1, 10, 12, 16         |
| X         | RE 35,687 A (IGUAE et al.) 09 December 1997, Figs. 1-6, col. 2, lines 45-56 and col. 3, lines 60-63. | 1-9, 11-22            |
| X         | US 2,796,064 A (GREEN et al.) 18 June 1957, Figs. 1-4 and col. 1, lines 15-20 and 52-60.             | 1-9, 11-22            |
| X         | US 4,589,876 A (VAN TILBURG) 20 May 1986, Fig. 11.   | 1-9, 11-22            |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents:  | *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention  |
| *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  | *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone   |
| *E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date  | *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | *Z* document member of the same patent family  |
| *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  |  |
| *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed  |  |

Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 MAY 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

12 JUN 2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

MARK O. POLUTTA

Telephone No. (703) 308-2114

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 97/02516

| Patent document<br>cited in search report | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s)   | Publication<br>date  |
|---|---------------------|--|--|
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 97/02516

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 97/02516

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 6 A61F13/15

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 6 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 June 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

20.08.97

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Mirza, A



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 97/02516

| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |  |                       |
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| Category   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X  | EP 0 547 497 A (KIMBERLY CLARK CO) 23 June 1993                                    | 1                     |
| A  | see column 5, line 22 - line 25; figure 3  | 3                     |
| A  | see column 6, line 54 - line 56  |                       |
| A  | see column 7, line 34 - line 35; claims 1,2,15                                     |                       |
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| A  | see page 1, line 17 - line 20  | 1                     |
|  | see page 3, line 1 - line 5  |                       |
|  | see page 16, line 30 - line 35   |                       |
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|  | see page 37, line 9 - line 14  |                       |
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| Y  | WO 95 22951 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 31 August 1995                                    | 3                     |
| A  | see page 1, line 15 - line 18  | 1                     |
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|  | see page 16, line 23 - line 29   |                       |
|  | -----  |                       |

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 97/02516

## Box I (Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet))

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II (Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet))

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

SEE ANNEX

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1 AND 3

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/210

MULTIPLE INVENTIONS

1. Claims: 1 and 3  
A belt or a belt layer for an absorbent article.
2. Claims: 2  
A backsheet for an absorbent article.
3. Claims: 4-10  
A breathable seam for an absorbent article.